Numb. 5572

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday September 10. to Saturday September 14. 1717.

AT the Court at *Hampton-Court*, the 22d of *Auguſt*, 1717.

PRESENT,

The King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council.

UPON reading this Day at the Board a Preſentment by the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, dated the 19th of July laſt, to the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury, in the Words following, viz.

'WE have had frequent Complaints from our 'Officers in ſeveral Parts of the Coaſts of 'this Kingdom, that the Smuglers are now grown 'ſo very numerous and inſolent, that they appear in 'Bodies from 20 to 30 armed Men, and in Defiance of 'the Officers of the Cuſtoms, do forcibly run great 'Quantities of Goods, to the great Prejudice of the 'Revenue and the fair Traders, a freſh Inſtance 'whereof we have now before us from one of our 'Officers at Stockton; who hath repreſented to us, 'in his Letter of the 7th Inſtant (Copy whereof is 'hereto annexed, for your Lordſhips more particular 'Information) that upon Notice of a conſiderable 'Quantity of Goods being run near that Port, he ap-'plyed to the Commanding Officer of two Troops of 'Dragoons now quartered there, to aſſiſt him in ſe-'curing the ſaid Goods, but was refuſed ſuch Aſ-'ſiſtance by the ſaid Officer, notwithſtanding the 'Clauſe in the Act of Frauds, 14 *Car.* II. requires 'the ſame: Such Commanding Officer alledging, that 'he had no Orders to aſſiſt any Officer of the Cuſ-'toms in the Execution of his Duty. We have there-'fore thought it our Duty to lay this Matter before 'your Lordſhips, and humbly pray that you will 'pleaſe to be a Means, that the Military Officers 'quartered not only in and about Stockton, but alſo 'on other Parts of the Coaſt of this Kingdom, may 'be directed to aſſiſt the Officers of the Cuſtoms, as 'there ſhall be Occaſion, in Seizing uncuſtomed and 'prohibited Goods.

HIS Majeſty taking the ſame into Conſideration, is pleaſed, with the Advice of His Privy Council, to Order, and it is hereby Ordered, That His Majeſty's Secretary at War, do forthwith cauſe Directions to be given to the Military Officers quartered on, or near the Sea-Coaſt, throughout England as well a Scotland, That they be aſſiſting to the Civil Magiſtrates, when deſired by them and the Officers of the Cuſtoms for the Executing Legal Proceſſes, and other Matters relating to His Majeſty's Service, in hindring the Exportation of Wooll, and Illegal Importation of French Silks, Brandy, and other Goods, and preventing the evil Practiſes complained of in the ſaid Preſentment. JA. VERNON.

Rome, *Aug.* 31. On the 18th Inſtant arrived an Expreſs from Madrid, with Letters for the Pope, in which the King of Spain thanked him for the Promotion of Cardinal Alberoni, and acquainted him with the Reaſons which had prevented the ſending of the auxiliary Squadron to join the Venetian Fleet in the Levant, as had been at firſt intended. That Day likewiſe the Marqueſs de Sanctis, Miniſter from the Duke of Parma, received, by a Courier, Diſpatches on the ſame Subject. On the 20th a Congregation was held in the Pope's Preſence, to conſider what Reſolutions this Court ought to take, in caſe a new War ſhould be kindled in Italy, and for preventing ſo great an Evil: Afterwards a Courier was diſpatched to Sig. Aldrovandi, Nuncio at Madrid, with Inſtructions purſuant to what had been agreed in the ſaid Congregation, and for offering the Pope's Mediation in order to determine the preſent Differences. Count Gallas, the Emperour's Ambaſſadour, having received Letters from Vienna on the 22d, had Audience of the Pope on the 23d, and made preſſing Inſtances to him, in the Name of his Imperial Majeſty, to induce him to declare that the ſudden Change of Counſels at the Court of Madrid was wholly without his Knowledge, and that he had no Part in the Deſigns that Court might have to diſturb the Peace of Italy, while the Emperour's Arms were employed in Hungary againſt the Enemies of the Chriſtian Name. Count Gubernatis, Miniſter of the King of Sicily, declared that Day, that he had no Knowledge of any ſuch Deſigns. On the 26th in the Morning arrived an Expreſs from Vienna, with the News of the intire Defeat of the Turkiſh Army in Hungary: That Afternoon the Pope went to the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore, to give Thanks for the Victory; the Imperial Ambaſſadour, and 24 Cardinals aſſiſting on that Occaſion. The Engagement between the Venetian and Turkiſh Fleets on the 19th of laſt Month, was without the Loſs of any Ship on either Side: A Storm prevented the Renewal of the Fight the next Day, and the Venetian Fleet was obliged to make to Cape Spartivento, where having been joined by the Portugueſe and Malteſe Auxiliaries, they came together to Corfu before the 16th Inſtant, which is the Date of the laſt Letters from thence. The Commadore of the Portugueſe Squadron having written hither, that he had ſeparated from the reſt of the Fleet, in order to return to Portugal, the Pope is extreamly concerned at it, becauſe 'tis known the Turkiſh Fleet continues on the Coaſts of the Morea, and he has prevailed with the Portugueſe Ambaſſadour to diſpatch a Letter to the ſaid Commadore, earneſtly preſſing him to rejoin the Venetian Fleet; it being very much to be apprehended, that ſuch a Separation before the Concluſion of the Campaign, might give too great an Advantage to the Turks.

Genoa, *Sept.* 7. This Day arrived an Expreſs from Sardinia, with Letters dated from the Camp before Cagliari the 27th paſt, which give the following Account:

'On the 22d of Auguſt, early in the 'Morning, the Spaniſh Forces landed near 'the Salt-Pits; 500 Imperial Horſe, of which '300 were regular Troops, appeared at ſome 'Diſtance from the Place of Landing, but 'the Cannon of the Spaniſh Gallies firing 'continually, kept them off, and the Deſcent 'was made without any Oppoſition. The 'ſame Day the Spaniſh Troops advanced to-'wards Cagliari, and encamped in the Plain 'of Lazaretto; and the Fleet which had an-'chored off the Salt-Pits, during the Diſim-'barkation, ſailed, and took their Station be-'fore the Town.

'On the 23d the Spaniſh Forces took Poſ-'ſeſſion of the Convent of Bonaire, the Im-'perialiſts retiring into the Suburbs of Cag-'liari, without firing a Shot, and thence their 'Foot withdrew into the Town, the Horſe 'marching off into the Country, to hinder 'the Spaniards from ſupplying themſelves 'with Proviſions on the Iſland.

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